HELLO, SIX-YEAR-OLDS AND PARENTS READING TO THREE-YEAR-OLDS!
UNTIL RECENTLY, COMICS WERE JUST PICTURE BOOKS USED TO DISTRACT SMALL CHILDREN!
NOT ANYMORE! THANKS TO TEAM FORTRESS COMICS, THEY'RE NOW ***BLOOD-SOAKED, ADRENALINE-GORGED ORGIES OF PICTURE VIOLENCE*** THAT'LL DISTRACT KIDS OF ***ALL*** AGES!


I'M SAXTON HALE! AND IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHO I AM YOU'RE PROBABLY AN IDIOT! OR A CHILDLESS ADULT.
BUT DON'T WORRY! BECAUSE THE COMIC YOU'RE NOW READING HAS BEEN WRITTEN, BY HAND, WITH THE EXPRESS PURPOSE OF CATCHING YOU UP ON SEVEN YEARS OF BACKSTORY, SO YOU CAN GET TO THE GOOD STUFF...
ISSUE #1 OF OUR ONGOING TEAM FORTRESS COMIC BOOK!
SO YOU'D BETTER SIT DOWN, BECAUSE—ON SECOND THOUGHT, STAND. YOU DON'T WANT TO BE IN A COMFORTABLE BOWEL-EMPTYING POSITION FOR THE ROCKET-SLED OF EXPOSITION YOU'RE ABOUT TO BE STRAPPED TO!
LET'S GET STARTED!
SAXTON HALE
THE TEAM FORTRESS® 2
CATCH-UP COMIC


1850
OUR STORY STARTS IN NEW MEXICO. IT'S A DESERT, AND IT LOOKS LIKE THIS. ONLY A MORON WOULD LIVE HERE.


HERE'S SOME MORONS WHO DECIDED TO LIVE HERE. A RICH OLD MAN FROM ENGLAND AND HIS TWIN IDIOT SONS.
REDMOND MANN
BLUTARCH MANN
ZEPHENIAH MANN
THE BOYS *HATED* EACH OTHER! BUT THEY LOVED THEIR DAD, AND THEY CONVINCED HIM TO BUY MOST OF NEW MEXICO AND MOVE THERE.
THE OLD MAN NEVER FORGAVE THEM FOR IT.

HERE'S SOME MORONS WHO DECIDED TO LIVE HERE. A RICH OLD MAN FROM ENGLAND AND HIS TWIN IDIOT SONS.
THE BOYS ***HATED*** EACH OTHER*!* BUT THEY LOVED THEIR DAD, AND THEY CONVINCED HIM TO BUY MOST OF NEW MEXICO AND MOVE THERE.
BARNABUS HALE (MY GRANDDAD)
THE OLD MAN NEVER FORGAVE THEM FOR IT.
ON HIS DEATHBED, HE LEFT THE FAMILY MUNITIONS COMPANY (MANN CO.) TO HIS TRUSTED AIDE...


HERE'S SOME MORONS WHO DECIDED TO LIVE HERE. A RICH OLD MAN FROM ENGLAND AND HIS TWIN IDIOT SONS.
THE BOYS *HATED* EACH OTHER! BUT THEY LOVED THEIR DAD, AND THEY CONVINCED HIM TO BUY MOST OF NEW MEXICO AND MOVE THERE.
THE OLD MAN NEVER FORGAVE THEM FOR IT.
ON HIS DEATHBED, HE LEFT THE FAMILY MUNITIONS COMPANY (MANN CO.) TO HIS TRUSTED AIDE...
...HE LEFT HIS MAIDSERVANT ALL HIS GOLD...
ELIZABETH


...AND HE LEFT HIS SONS *NOTHING*.


...AND HE LEFT HIS SONS NOTHING.
NOTHING BUT THE USELESS LAND THEY'D CONVINCED HIM TO BUY. AND HE GAVE IT TO THEM TO SHARE. SO THEY'D FIGHT OVER IT UNTIL THE DAY THEY DIED.

ONE OF THE BROTHERS HIRED MERCENARIES TO SEIZE THE LAND FROM HIS TWIN. BUT THE OTHER BROTHER DID TOO!
THE ENSUING LAND WAR HAS GONE ON FOR A HUNDRED AND TWENTY YEARS NOW — AS DRAMATIZED IN THE DOCUMENTARY VIDEO GAME *TEAM FORTRESS 2!*



1890
YEARS PASSED. THE BROTHERS WERE CLOSE TO DEATH, BUT NO CLOSER TO STEALING THEIR WORTHLESS INHERITANCE FROM ONE ANOTHER.
THAT'S WHERE THIS SHARP OLD TACK COMES IN.
RADIGAN CONAGHER
WATCH YOUR STEP
ONE OF THE BROTHERS HIRED A BRILLIANT ENGINEER TO BUILD A MACHINE THAT'D MAKE HIM LIVE FOREVER!
IF HE COULDN'T BEAT HIS TWIN FOR THE LAND, HE'D OUTLAST HIM FOR IT!


WATCH YOUR STEP
ELIZABETH
ONLY PROBLEM WAS, *THIS* LADY SECRETLY CONVINCED THE ENGINEER TO BUILD A MACHINE FOR THE *OTHER* BROTHER TOO!
WHY? NOBODY KNOWS. BUT NOW THE BROTHERS ARE BOTH PRACTICALLY IMMORTAL, STILL IDIOTS, AND DOOMED TO PIT THEIR MERCS AGAINST EACH OTHER *FOREVER!*


AUSTRALIUM
YOU'RE PROBABLY ASKING, "SAXTON, HOW CAN *I* BUILD A LIFE-EXTENDING MACHINE?" WELL, FIRST YOU'D NEED SOME ***AUSTRALIUM.*** AND GOOD LUCK, 'CAUSE IT'S HARD TO COME BY.
IT'S THE MOST ***VALUABLE SUBSTANCE ON EARTH.*** WHEN WE AUSTRALIANS FOUND THE STUFF, IT TURNED US INTO SUPERMEN*!* LOOK AT THAT CITY UP THERE. PRETTY FUTURISTIC, RIGHT?


STILL 1890
YOU'RE PROBABLY ASKING, "SAXTON, HOW CAN *I* BUILD A LIFE-EXTENDING MACHINE?" WELL, FIRST YOU'D NEED SOME ***AUSTRALIUM.*** AND GOOD LUCK, 'CAUSE IT'S HARD TO COME BY.
IT'S THE MOST ***VALUABLE SUBSTANCE ON EARTH.*** WHEN WE AUSTRALIANS FOUND THE STUFF, IT TURNED US INTO SUPERMEN*!* LOOK AT THAT CITY UP THERE. PRETTY FUTURISTIC, RIGHT?
GUESS WHAT: ***THAT'S AUSTRALIA! IN 1890!***

NOW IT'S 1930
BILIOUS HALE (MY DAD)
TEAM FORTRESS CLASSIC MERCS
ANYWAY, MORE YEARS PASSED, THE BROTHERS DIDN'T DIE, AND THE WAR CONTINUED.

NOW IT'S NOW
MANNCO
THAT BRINGS US TO TODAY! GOOD OLD 1972!


MANN CO. (THE FAMILY BUSINESS)
MANNCO
SNIPER
SPY
MEDIC
HEAVY
SCOUT
DEMOMAN
SOLDIER
ENGINEER
PYRO
I'M IN CHARGE OF THE FAMILY BUSINESS NOW!
MOSTLY I MAKE AND SELL WEAPONS FOR *THESE* GUYS, THE CURRENT CROP OF MERCS.



THESE TWO LOVELY LADIES HELP COORDINATE THE MASSIVE LAND WAR THE MERCS FIGHT EVERY DAY.
THEY'RE ALSO SECRETLY WORKING FOR BOTH SIDES, BUT THE BROTHERS AND THE MERCS DON'T KNOW THAT, SO KEEP IT UNDER YOUR HAT.
IN FACT, BURN YOUR COMPUTER AFTER YOU READ THIS.
THE ADMINISTRATOR
MISS PAULING, HER ASSISTANT


MANNCO
GRAY MANN
SO THAT'S ABOUT IT. OH! THERE'S ALSO THIS GUY.
HE'S THE LONG LOST SMARTER THIRD BROTHER OF THOSE IDIOT TWINS I TOLD YOU ABOUT.
HIS DAD ABANDONED HIM AT BIRTH BECAUSE HE WAS WEAK! HE WAS CAPTURED AND RAISED BY EAGLES.


MANNCO
THAT IS SOME PREPOSTEROUS HORSE@#$% IF YOU ASK ME. BUT BARELY CREDIBLE BACKSTORY ASIDE, HE *MEANS BUSINESS.*
KILLED BOTH HIS BROTHERS LAST YEAR. AND NOW HE'S TRYING TO TAKE OVER *MY* COMPANY, THE GREASY LITTLE WEASEL.


ALRIGHT, ALL THAT GARBAGE I TOLD YOU BEFORE? FORGET ABOUT IT.
ALL THE PEOPLE IN FRONT OF YOUR EYEBALLS RIGHT NOW ARE WHAT MATTERS. BURN THEM INTO YOUR BRAIN. I CAN WAIT.
MEMORIZED? GOOD! NOW YOU'RE READY TO READ TEAM FORTRESS COMICS! CLICK THIS PAGE TO GO RIGHT TO ISSUE #1!
HAPPY FREE COMIC BOOK DAY! OR AS WE CALL IT HERE AT TF COMICS, EVERY DAY!
GET CLICKING.
HAPPY FREE COMIC BOOK DAY